

CLAIMS (AMENDED):

1. (presently amended) A system for drafting a patent application and assessing technological information on at least one computer, the system comprising:
 - a. at least one input device connected to the at least one computer ~~and at least one output device, wherein at least one user is capable of for~~ inputting information from at least one user via the at least one input device to the at least one computer and viewing information on the at least one output device, and wherein the at least one computer is capable of storing, modifying, outputting, and retrieving information in communication with the at least one input device and at least one output device; and,
 - b. at least one processing means for software installed and capable of running on the at least one computer for automatically generating a diagrammatic representation of an invention, wherein the diagrammatic representation includes a hierarchical component categorization of the technical components of the invention based upon the information inputted by the at least one user, inputted information and outputting a viewable diagram of that categorization and for automatically generating a document for filing as a patent application, including specification and claims, based upon the information inputted by the at least one user inputted information and additional text-based detailed information that is organized consistent with the diagram; wherein the hierarchical component categorization includes at least one key component and at least one subcomponent related thereto; wherein the diagrammatic representation of the components and

subcomponents together provides an indication of what may be claimed in a patent application, and

- c. at least one output device connected to the at least one computer for outputting the automatically generated diagrammatic representation of an invention.

2. (original) The system according to claim 1, wherein the diagram is modifiable by the at least one user and the diagram hierarchical component categorization and related text-based detailed information is automatically updated based upon the user modifications.

3. (original) The system according to claim 1, wherein the at least one key component includes a multiplicity of components.

4. (original) The system according to claim 1, wherein the at least one subcomponent further includes at least one sub-subcomponent.

5. (original) The system according to claim 1, wherein the relational connection between components establishes the claims structure of the patent application.

6. (original) The system according to claim 1, wherein the text-based information and the diagram components are automatically linked.

7. (original) The system according to claim 6, wherein the link(s) are hyperlinks.

8. (original) The system according to claim 1, wherein the document and diagram are capable of being output into another software program.

9. (original) The system according to claim 1, wherein the document and diagram are exportable in HTML format.

10. (original) The system according to claim 1, wherein the document and diagram are exportable in XML format.

11. (presently amended) A method for drafting a patent application comprising the steps of:

a. at least one user entering information relating to components of a patentable invention by at least one user;

b. a system automatically generating a visual diagram of the components of the invention in a hierarchical relational diagram, wherein the system includes at least one input device connected to at least one computer and at least one output device, wherein at least one user is capable of inputting information via the at least one input device to the at least one computer and viewing information on the at least one output device, and wherein the at least one computer is capable of storing, modifying, outputting, and retrieving information in communication with the at least one input device and at least one output device; and software installed and capable of running on the at least one computer for automatically generating wherein the visual diagram is a diagrammatic representation of an invention, wherein the diagrammatic representation includes a hierarchical component categorization of the technical components of the invention based upon the user inputted information and outputting a viewable diagram of that categorization and for automatically generating a document for filing as a patent application, including specification and claims, based upon the user inputted information and additional text-based detailed information that is organized consistent with the diagram; wherein the hierarchical component

categorization includes at least one key component and at least one subcomponent related thereto; and

c. the at least one user viewing the diagram and text-based information in a tangible medium- , wherein the diagrammatic representation of the components and subcomponents together provides an indication of what may be claimed in a patent application.

12. (presently amended) The method according to claim 11, further including the step of:

at least one user entering diagram ~~verbage~~ verbiage by drafting the text-based detailed description or ~~verbage~~ verbiage of the specification section of the application for each component of the diagram.

13. (original) The method according to claim 11, further including the step of:

at least one user inputting additional components selected from the group consisting of key components, subcomponents, and sub-subcomponents.

14. (original) The method according to claim 11, further including the steps of:

modifying any previously inputted components within the diagram; and

the system automatically updating the diagram and relational information to those modified components.

15. (original) The method according to claim 11, further including the step of

automatically generating a patent application based upon the inputted information and the hierarchical diagram, including specification and claims.

16. (presently amended) A system for mapping technology using at least one computing device, comprising:

a. at least one input device connected to the at least one computing device computer and at least one output device, wherein at least one user is capable of for inputting information from at least one user via the at least one input device to the at least one computer and viewing information on the at least one output device, and wherein the at least one computer is capable of storing, modifying, outputting, and retrieving information in communication with the at least one input device and at least one output device; and,

b. at least one processing means for software installed and capable of running on the at least one computer for automatically generating a diagrammatic representation of a technology, wherein the diagrammatic representation includes a hierarchical component categorization of the technical components of the technology based upon the information inputted by the at least one user, inputted information and outputting a viewable diagram of that categorization; wherein the hierarchical component categorization includes at least one key component and at least one subcomponent related thereto, and

c. at least one output device connected to the at least one computing device for outputting the automatically generated diagrammatic representation of a technology.

17. (presently amended) A method for mapping technology comprising the steps of:

a. at least one user entering information relating to components of a technology by at least one user;

b. ~~a system~~ automatically generating a visual diagram of the components of the technology in a hierarchical relational diagram, ~~wherein the system includes at least one input device connected to at least one computer and at least one output device, wherein at least one user is capable of inputting information via the at least one input device to the at least one computer and viewing information on the at least one output device, and wherein the at least one computer is capable of storing, modifying, outputting, and retrieving information in communication with the at least one input device and at least one output device; and software installed and capable of running on the at least one computer for automatically generating~~ wherein the visual diagram is a diagrammatic representation of a technology, wherein the diagrammatic representation includes a hierarchical component categorization of the technical components of the technology based upon the user inputted information and outputting a viewable diagram of that categorization; wherein the hierarchical component categorization includes at least one key component and at least one subcomponent related thereto; and

c. the at least one user viewing the diagram and text-based information in a tangible medium.

18. (presently amended) A system for examining a patent application using at least one computing device, comprising:

a. at least one input device connected to the at least one computing device ~~computer~~ ~~and at least one output device, wherein at least one user is capable of~~ for inputting information from at least one patent applicant ~~via the at least one input device to the at least one computer and viewing information on the at least one output device, and~~

~~wherein the at least one computer is capable of storing, modifying, outputting, and retrieving information in communication with the at least one input device and at least one output device; and,~~

b. at least one processing means for software installed and capable of running on the at least one computer for automatically generating a diagrammatic representation of an invention, wherein the diagrammatic representation includes a hierarchical component categorization of the technical components of the invention based upon the information inputted by the at least one patent applicant's inputted information and outputting a viewable diagram of that categorization for a patent examiner to review the diagram as part of the examination of a patent application, wherein the diagram provides a substantive and hierarchical representation of the claims as written in the patent application; wherein the hierarchical component categorization includes at least one key component and at least one subcomponent related thereto, wherein the diagrammatic representation of the components and subcomponents together provides an indication of what is claimed in the patent application, and
c. at least one output device connected to the at least one computing device for outputting a viewable diagram of the hierarchical component categorization for a patent examiner to review the diagram as part of the examination of a patent application.

19. (presently amended) A method for examining a patent application comprising the steps of:

a. at least one user entering information relating to the claims of a potentially patentable invention, as represented in a patent application by at least one patent applicant;

b. a system automatically generating a visual diagram of components of the invention in a hierarchical relational diagram, wherein the diagram includes technical components from the claims of the patent application, as well as the hierarchical relationship of the claims to each other;

~~wherein the system includes at least one input device connected to at least one computer and at least one output device, wherein at least one user is capable of inputting information via the at least one input device to the at least one computer and viewing information on the at least one output device, and wherein the at least one computer is capable of storing, modifying, outputting, and retrieving information in communication with the at least one input device and at least one output device; and software installed and capable of running on the at least one computer for automatically generating~~ wherein the visual diagram is a diagrammatic representation of an invention, wherein the diagrammatic representation includes a hierarchical component categorization of the technical components of the invention based upon the patent applicant's inputted information ~~and outputting a viewable diagram of that categorization for a patent examiner to review the diagram as part of the examination of a patent application~~; wherein the diagram provides a substantive and hierarchical representation of the claims as written in the patent application; wherein the hierarchical component categorization includes at least one key component and at least one subcomponent related thereto, wherein the diagrammatic representation of

the components and subcomponents together provides an indication of what is

claimed in the patent application, and

c. at least one patent examiner viewing the diagram of the categorization for a patent application as part of the examination of a patent application.